

XII.—*Descriptions of Three new Snakes from Africa.*

By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.

Thrasops batesii.

About 30 small maxillary teeth followed by three large ones. Rostral much broader than deep, visible from above; internasals nearly as long as the præfrontals; frontal once and a half as long as broad, longer than its distance from the end of the snout, as long as or a little shorter than the parietals; loreal longer than deep; one præ- and three postoculars; a single temporal; seven or eight upper labials, fourth and fifth or fifth and sixth entering the eye, last as large as the temporal; five or six lower labials in contact with the anterior chin-shields, which are as long as the posterior. Scales smooth, in 13 rows. Ventrals 163–170; anal entire; subcaudals 101–114. Pale brown or pea-green above, with small black spots and larger light spots forming irregular cross-bands; upper lip white, with the sutures between the shields black; lower parts white in front, brown or olive behind, with scattered small black spots.

Total length 1800 mm.; tail 350.

Described from one adult and two young specimens obtained by Mr. G. L. Bates in South Cameroon (Efulen and Akok, Kribi River district, and Ja River district).

HYPOPTOPHIS, gen. nov. (*Colubrid. opisthogl.*).

Maxillary very short, with four teeth gradually increasing in size and followed, after an interspace, by a pair of large grooved fangs situated below the eye; anterior mandibular teeth slightly enlarged. Head small, not distinct from neck; snout much depressed and very prominent; rostral very large, with obtuse horizontal edge, concave below; eye very small, with vertically elliptic pupil; nostril in a semi-divided nasal; no loreal; a præocular in contact with the nasal. Body cylindrical; scales smooth, without pits, in 15 rows; ventrals rounded. Tail short; subcaudals single.

Hypoptophis wilsonii.

Upper part of rostral as long as its distance from the frontal; internasals shorter than the præfrontals; frontal as long as broad, rather more than twice as broad as the supra-ocular, which is small; two postoculars, in contact with the anterior temporal; temporals 1+1; seven upper labials, third and fourth entering the eye; four lower labials in contact with the anterior chin-shields, which are a little longer than the posterior. Ventrals 118; anal entire; subcaudals 36. Uniform blackish brown.

Total length 560 mm. ; tail 100.

A single female specimen from Inkongo, on the Sankuru River, in the Kassai Province of the Congo, presented by Mr. H. Wilson.

Atractaspis watsonii.

Snout very short, feebly prominent. Portion of rostral visible from above half as long as its distance from the frontal; suture between the internasals shorter than that between the præfrontals; frontal as long as broad, longer than its distance from the end of the snout, as long as the parietals; one præ- and one postocular; temporals small, 2+3; six upper labials, third and fourth largest, fourth bordering the eye; first lower labial in contact with its fellow behind the symphysial; three lower labials in contact with the chin-shields. Scales in 29 rows. Ventrals 222; anal entire; subcaudals 29, mostly single (last 8 paired). Uniform black.

Total length 570 mm. ; tail 45.

A single female specimen from Sokoto, Upper Niger, presented by Mr. C. F. Watson.

XIII.—*New African Phlebotomic Diptera in the British Museum (Natural History)*. — Part III. *Tabanidæ (continued)*.
By ERNEST E. AUSTEN*.

TABANINÆ.

Genus HEMATOPOTA, Mg. (*continued*).

Hematopota copemani, sp. n.

♀.—Length (15 specimens) 9·5 to 11 mm. ; width of head 2·6 to 2·8 mm. ; width of front at vertex 1 to 1·2 mm. ; length of wing 8·4 to 9·6 mm.

Yellowish grey; dorsum of thorax with four dark brown longitudinal stripes, dorsum of abdomen with a broad longitudinal dark brown stripe on each side of middle line, starting from base and usually becoming attenuated or dying away towards distal extremity, narrowly interrupted on hind margins of segments; frontal callus clove-brown †, sometimes lighter in

* For Parts I. and II. see Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. ser. 8, vol. i. pp. 209-228 and 401-428.

† For names and illustrations of colours, see Ridgway, 'A Nomenclature of Colors for Naturalists' (Boston: Little, Brown, & Company, 1886).